



# Ø BEAT

COLO. SPRINGS,  
COLORADO

## OCTOBER 1974



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CLOUT

By Vic Clark - W4KFC

## ELECTION TIME

Occasionally one hears the argument advanced that to join forces with others in a cooperative effort is to sacrifice, in some manner, one's independence and "clout". Perhaps so, but history has recorded the passing of many-a loner and faction whose "pride", spirit of independence (or perhaps just plain orneriness!) somehow kept them from becoming a part of a larger, mutually protective effort. The process of evolution has demonstrated a sobering consistency for phasing out species failing to ally themselves with their fellows against external hazards.

Surely anyone who has the moxie to qualify for an amateur radio license is also capable of perceiving the importance of protecting the privileges thus won - in fact, many subscribe to an even nobler purpose - the improvement and perpetuation of the amateur radio service. However, some of us tend to be individualistic, and that otherwise desirable characteristic often seems

The main item of interest at the October meeting will be the election of a board of directors and officers for the coming year. According to election procedure, the new directors are first elected and then from the elected and incumbent directors, club members vote for the officers. Directors serve a two year term while officers serve a one year term.

To help in the election procedure, PPRAA has a nomination committee to pick members they recommend for the board and officers. In addition, any club member meeting the qualifications can be nominated at the election meeting by another club member. If you have someone in mind that you think will make a good director and/or officer and who is willing to serve, the nomination will be most welcome.

Club members picked by the nominating committee, headed by Ed Pompea, KØZPG, are Chuck Myers, WAØZCS, Tom

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# ZERO BEAT

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Editor, Phone 635-7353



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The PPRAA meets at 7:30 P.M. on the second Wednesday of each month in the Security Savings & Loan Building, East Platte at Union Boulevard.

## PPRAA DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

Russ Ruggieri WBØGKF  
3929 E San Miguel 80909 596-3039

### VICE PRESIDENT

Mike Stansberry WBØHCK  
2732 E Monument 80909 475-8650

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## POOR AMATEUR RESPONSE

Amateur response to current FCC dockets has been disappointing it is reported - evidently few take time to comment on the many important FCC actions pending. RACES Docket, on the other hand, has had lots of response - 95% of it from RACES people, and almost 100% of that "anti-ham"! Comments range from "RACES needs paid professional operators - hams are not competent emergency communicators", to one state organization that proposes taking the present RACES band segment away from the amateur service and reassigning it to state and local governments for full-time RACES use! Here are the dockets on the FCC calendar coming up in October and November that you still have time to send your comments in:

Docket 20092 - Extras can request specific calls. Comments due by October 9th.

Docket 20111 - Commemorative call-signs, Comments due October 30th.

Docket 20112 - Repeater automatic control. Comments due October 30.

Docket 20113 - Repeater cross-banding. Comments due October 30.

Docket 20147 - Sharing 420-450 band with HIRAN System. Comments due November 4th.

### WESTPARK RADIOPS

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The bathtub came into common use in 1850 while the telephone wasn't invented until 1875. That gave us only 25 years to enjoy the pleasure of soaking in the tub without the disturbance of a ringing phone.

PROPOSED FEE REDUCTIONS

Continuing the fees proceeding in Docket 19658, FCC recently issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making calling for considerably reduced fees in most all services. This action obviously is in response to the Supreme Court decision some time ago, declaring it improper for the Commission to attempt to recoup its entire budget through assessment of fees, and stating that "value to the recipient" should be the guiding factor.

Under the proposal, the basic amateur fee would drop to \$6.00 from the present \$9.00, and modifications without renewal would be \$5.00. Special call sign applications would continue at the \$25.00 level. Still no fee for Novices, military recreation stations, RACES. Final comment date was September 20th.

CCRC CIRCLE

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ARRL MEMBERSHIP RATES

The September QST announces that effective January 1, 1975 ARRL membership rates will be raised to \$9.00 in the U. S. and \$10.00 in Canada. If you have been putting off membership, you had best take care of the matter before January 1st. Few probably realize that you can pay for any number of years at the current rate. If you are under 60 years old, a Life Membership is probably your best buy.

BOULDER QSP

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NATIONAL RADIO RIDES AGAIN

All assets of the former National Radio Company were recently purchased by the new National Radio Company, Inc., with plans to resume manufacture of most of the former company's product lines. For further information write John A. Welsh, President, National Radio Company, Inc., 78 Stone Place, Melrose, MA, 02176.

WESTPARK RADIOPS

ELECTION TIME (Continued)

McNearny, WBØBOE, Bart Hayhurst, WAØYOH, and Dick Cullen, WBØAGT. From these nominees plus any others nominated from the floor, the members will vote for four directors. The incumbent directors who still have one year to serve and can be nominated for an office along with the newly elected directors, are Russ Ruggieri, WBØGKF, Mike Stansberry, WBØHCK, Dean Jaynes, WAØPJH, and James Don Carlos, WØITU.

The following persons will be recommended by the nominating committee for these offices: President, Mike Stansberry; Vice-President, Chuck Myers; Secretary, Tom McNearny; and Treasurer, Dean Jaynes. All have agreed to serve in these capacities if elected. You don't agree with some of the nominating committee's recommendations? Then be at the October meeting to make your own nominations and, above all, to vote.

The persons elected at this meeting will govern PPRAA for the coming year and will decide if PPRAA will keep its place as one of the top amateur radio clubs in this area or fade away to just a memory. Can you afford not to be there to cast your vote?

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You who think you know it all are very annoying to those of us who do.

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PARAPLEGIC RUNS CALIFORNIA STATION

Otho Jarman never leaves his bed, but his voice carries him around the world. The 38-year old paraplegic operates an amateur radio station in this Southern California desert town of Barstow.

He uses his neck and face muscles to operate an ingenious system of controls. Frequency is tuned with a geared-down reversible motor controlled by his neck pressure. The 15-meter beam antenna is rotated from a three-position chin switch. His lips turn the power on or off.

He forms Morse code characters with breath sounds which are translated into electrical impulses at speeds up to 35 words a minute. Jarman's courage, determination and the help of others are filling the long hours with the adventure of communicating with other "hams" near and far. He has reached points as distant as New Guinea.

When he was 22, Jarman broke his spine diving into a reservoir to save a child from drowning. He is paralyzed below the neck, unable to move except for his head.

His interest in radio was fanned in 1970 when the Barstow Amateur Radio Club offered to help any handicapped person become an operator. Jarman had no experience in radio, but he responded. Studying and with tutoring one hour each Sunday for seven weeks from club members, he passed his novice examination and began communicating with the outside world, using Morse code. The Barstow radio club obtained equipment for him. Ten months later he started studying for a higher grade license.

He passed the Federal Communications test and began transmitting by voice after receiving call sign WB6KYM and a license equivalent to the general class. Now he is thinking about taking the exam for an advanced grade. Jarman spends about five hours a day on the air.

"Before they came along I could only read to pass the time, and was just about dead inside and out. Now, I feel a whole new world has opened for me - there is nothing like it".

ASSOCIATED PRESS via Colorado Springs  
GAZETTE TELEGRAPH

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CALLBOOK UPDATE AVAILABLE

An update of information published in the Colorado Ham Directory is available by sending a business sized self-addressed, stamped envelope to Rich High, WØHEP, 740 Galena Street, Aurora, Colo. 80010.


BOULDER QSP

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DID YOU KNOW?

During fiscal year 1974, the FCC: obtained 20 criminal convictions through its CB enforcement teams; operated 40 special inspection stations in 21 states to check on truckers illegal CB usage and found more than 9,000 unlicensed units; initiated action to fine 1,000 illegal operators, revoked 700 licenses. Yet, CB applications increased by almost 50% -342,000!

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REPEATER TIPS

DO KEEP ALL TRANSMISSIONS SHORT. Emergencies don't wait for monologues to be finished. If you talk to hear your own voice, what you want is a tape recorder, not an FM rig.

DO THINK BEFORE YOU TRANSMIT. If you can't think of anything worth saying, don't say anything.

DO PAUSE A COUPLE OF SECONDS BETWEEN EXCHANGES. Someone with a high-priority need for the repeater may want to break in; also, some repeaters are configured so that a brief pause in transmissions is necessary to reset the timer.

DO IDENTIFY PROPERLY. "W6XYZ mobile" is not enough, even if you're three hundred miles from another call area; "W6XYZ mobile 6" is required. You must give the call of the station with whom you were in contact at the end of the contact.

DO BE COURTEOUS. A repeater is like a telephone party line, and requires the same kind of cooperation in its use.

DO USE SIMPLEX WHENEVER POSSIBLE. Leave the repeaters available for those who need them.

DO USE THE MINIMUM POWER NECESSARY to maintain communication. Not only is this an FCC requirement, it's also common courtesy.

DO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL REPEATER CLUB, even if it doesn't require all users to be members. Maintaining a good machine is an expensive undertaking and you should do your share.

DON'T ABUSE AUTOPATCH PRIVILEGES. Business messages are not permitted in the amateur service. Don't force the control operator to terminate your call in order to avoid a violation.

DON'T BREAK INTO A CONTACT unless you have something to add. Interrupting is no more polite on the air than it is in person.

DON'T FORGET THAT AMATEUR RADIO IS ALLOCATED FREQUENCIES BECAUSE IT IS A SERVICE, not just a hobby. Don't

neglect the public service aspects of vhf fm communications, such as accident reporting, emergency preparedness, etc.

DON'T TRY TO PROVE WHAT A GREAT OPERATOR YOU ARE by criticizing the operating techniques of others on the air. Instead, set an example which others will be proud to follow.

DON'T MONOPOLIZE A REPEATER. The best repeater users are the ones who do a lot of listening, and little transmitting.

DON'T FORGET THAT WHAT YOU SAY OVER A REPEATER CAN BE HEARD OVER THOUSANDS OF SQUARE MILES by anyone with an inexpensive "public service band" monitor. These people are potential hams; if they like what they hear on the air, they will want to get licenses and join us. Don't leave them with a bad impression of our hobby by making thoughtless or off-color remarks.

From: ARRL REPEATER DIRECTORY via  
WR8ABC NEWSLETTER

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HEAD COUNT

Two-way radio is one of the fastest growing segments of the total communication field, so it is interesting to see what some of the relative standings are in specific areas. For an example, look at the figures for 1965 covering amateur and citizens band: Ham Transmitters - 286,325 while for CB it was 2,397,852. In 1973 the figures were: Ham transmitters, 279,505 and for CB it rose to 3,842,775. Every major segment increased except amateur radio, so it is being realistic to state that unless something constructive is accomplished to bring more hams into the fold, it will become ever more difficult to fight off the attacks on amateur frequencies from other users of two-way radio.

WR8ABC NEWSLETTER

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Say, if neither rain, sleet, hail, etc. will not deter...than what is the matter?

## COMMUNICATION

Austin Forsyth, G6FO

Many years ago, it was said in this space that radio amateurs were privileged still to use the simplest, most elegant, accurate, reliable and unambiguous method of radio communication yet devised. They still are - and we refer, of course, to the art and practice of CW telegraphy.

It has often been said since (though never by us) that "CW has had it," or "Why do we need to know Morse, anyway?" or "Most amateurs never touch the key again after passing the Morse Test".

Well, the answers are that a large proportion of AT-station operators, all over the world, still do use CW as a regular thing - because they find it an interesting and entirely satisfactory method of communication. As to why the Morse Test is a necessary qualification for a radio amateur license (for the HF bands) in every country of the world, there are several answers: The most cogent are, first, that by international agreement Amateur Radio is defined as a self-training service, and to justify this concept then radio amateur operators ought to be able to communicate by telegraphy. Secondly, the requirement to learn Morse, and pass a test, effectively separates those who take Amateur Radio seriously from those who would just like a license "to talk to their friends over the air". (Of course, there are infinite shades and variations of this proposition, but it is a fair generalization). Thirdly, while it is probably true that many amateurs never do use the key after passing the Test, this does not justify its abolition. Learning Morse is like learning to swim - once you know how, the ability is never lost, even if the execution is indifferent due to lack of practice. Fourthly, to take and pass the Morse Test is in itself a satisfying achievement.

What it comes to is that since the

Continued on Page 7

## CLOUT (Continued)

to cloud our judgment in matters calling for cooperative effort. For example, we threaten to withhold our support of our radio club or the League, or other group endeavor, because of some real or presumed deficiency in them, grimly rationalizing that we somehow sacrifice our individual freedom or "clout" by entering into a common cause. Yet in our sober moments most of us recognize that a solid front is vital to the future well-being of amateur radio in an increasingly competitive and organized society.

Nobody is perfect... neither is any organization (including the ARRL!). But we would do well to spurn neither our local or national amateur associations because of their imperfections. There must be a higher destiny, too, than merely tossing rocks from curbside at the passing parade. Rather, the key to survival would appear to lie in working together for the common good, endeavoring to bring about improvements in the way we conduct our collective affairs.

The future of amateur radio cannot simply be taken for granted. Indeed, we could exit the way of the dodo (and many other special interest groups) if we fail to perform as a team in meeting the challenges ahead. "Clout" is the product of pulling together...not pulling apart.

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TRAFFIC HANDLING

Next major hassle between amateur/FCC may well be over traffic handling on the amateur bands. Rules interpretation has been growing more and more restrictive - E.G., the Eyebank case - and some hams have become so paranoid about it that they are afraid to mention a piece of gear they have for sale on the air, or ask someone on two meters to help them find a motel room!

HRR Via WESTPARK RADIOPS

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LICENSE EXPIRATION NOTICE

The License Expiration Notice Service will keep track of your license expiration date and will remind you in advance.

Note the expiration date on a self-addressed, stamped postcard and send it to Joan Machinchick, K3KBI, 1023 Lake Claire Drive, RFD 4, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

From AUTO-Call

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Automation: Man's continuing effort to make work so easy that women will someday be able to do it all.

COMMUNICATION (Continued)

objective of the great majority of radio amateurs is to communicate, and CW is one method of communication it is just as important in the amateur context as telephony - and a great deal cheaper and more efficient!

SHORTWAVE MAGAZINE via COLLECTOR  
AND EMITTER

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HAMS AND RFI

It seems that some radio amateurs are having trouble with the electronic systems in the Volkswagens. Twenty meters (14 MHz) operation of a transmitter with an antenna on the rear bumper will kill the engine. On other bands or with different antenna positions the problem disappears. One of the newer problems for EMC engineers and one that will continue to get worse unless car manufacturers start using EMC engineers in their electronic system design stage.

TEXAS LONE STAR BULLETIN via AUTO-CALL

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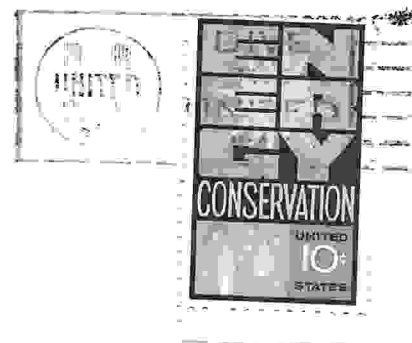
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